1-118 Na Valporate levels – What causes levels to elevate

TIPS Question:

What can cause epival levels to fluctuate on a weekly basis (i.e. food, other meds, physical status such as infections)?

Response:

The most common reason for fluctuating limits that may be useful to review are:

1. Is the patient compliant?
2. Is the same lab doing the assay?
3. Is the blood being drawn at the same time of day
4. Valporate is metabolized by cytochrome enzymes
5. ASA also has a potential to alter VPA levels
6. One reference consulted states that social drinking causes some increase in VPA levels.
7. Infection can also increase drug metabolism
8. Finally, is the renal function stable?

Please note: *TIPS information should be used similar to the way you would use information from a text book! TIPS is not intended to serve as an individual consultation service! P.I.E.C.E.S. participants should use this information in context and always work closely with the family physician involved in the care of the resident or client and with other Partners In Care to find solutions to individual resident/client issues.*